Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
  (HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENT OF HUSKY PLAN, PART B PREMIUMS THROUGH PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2003*) (a) As used in this
2 section:

3 (1) "Employer" means a person, firm or corporation, engaged in
4 business who has one or more employees, including the state and any
5 political subdivision of the state; and

6 (2) "State funds" means any bond revenues or money appropriated
7 or allocated by the General Assembly.

8 (b) The state and any employer that (1) receives state funds, and (2)
9 has employees who are required to pay premiums in order to receive
10 benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part B, as defined in section 17b-290
11 of the general statutes, shall, with the consent of an employee who
12 exercises such option, provide for the collection of HUSKY premiums
13 pursuant to section 17b-295 of the general statutes, through payroll
14 deductions.

15   Sec. 2. Section 17b-295 of the general statutes is repealed and the
16   following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

17   (a) The commissioner may require the payment of a premium or
18   copayment in connection with services provided under the HUSKY
19   Plan, Part B in accordance with the following limitations:

20   (1) Until July 1, 1999, the maximum annual aggregate cost sharing
21   for a family with an income (A) which exceeds one hundred eighty-
22   five per cent of the federal poverty level but does not exceed two
23   hundred thirty-five per cent of the federal poverty level shall not be
24   more than six hundred fifty dollars, and (B) which exceeds two
25   hundred thirty-five per cent of the federal poverty level but does not
26   exceed three hundred per cent of the federal poverty level shall not be
27   more than one thousand two hundred fifty dollars;

28   (2) On and after July 1, 1999, the commissioner shall submit a
29   schedule for the maximum annual aggregate cost sharing for families
30   with an income specified in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision
31   (1) of this subsection to the joint standing committees of the General
32   Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services,
33   public health, insurance and appropriations and the budgets of state
34   agencies. Within fifteen days of receipt of such schedule, said joint
35   standing committees of the General Assembly may advise the
36   commissioner of their approval, denial or modifications, if any, of the
37   schedule; and

38   (3) The commissioner shall require each managed care plan to
39   monitor copayments and premiums under the provisions of
40   subdivision (1) of this subsection.

41   (b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the
42   commissioner may impose limitations on the amount, duration and
43   scope of benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part B.

44   (2) The limitations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to

45 subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not preclude coverage of any
46 item of durable medical equipment or service that is medically
47 necessary.

48 (c) The commissioner shall allow persons required to pay a
49 premium in connection with services provided under the HUSKY
50 Plan, Part B to pay such premiums through payroll deductions.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	*October 1, 2003*
Sec. 2	*October 1, 2003*

Statement of Purpose:

To require employers who receive state funds to offer a payroll deduction option to any employee paying premiums to maintain enrollment in HUSKY Plan, Part B as required by section 17b-295 of the general statutes.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. SMITH, 14th Dist.; REP. COLLINS, 117th Dist.
REP. ROY, 119th Dist.